

### Abstract of the Disclosure

A master/slave synchronization communication system applies IEEE1394, and uses its natural period as a base cycle so as to provide synchronization of all stations with  
5 a communication period as an integral multiple of the base cycle, thereby allowing easy scheduling of data transmission/reception.

The master/slave synchronization communication system has a communication period which is set to an integral  
10 multiple of a natural period of IEEE1394 communications with the natural period considered as a base cycle, each station has a detecting section of a synchronization point being a start timing of the communication period, and a base cycle counter which shows what base cycle number the  
15 present cycle is from the synchronization point (The counter value has the same value at all stations after detecting the synchronization point), the master transmits instruction data to each slave based on a transmission management table in which destination slaves of instruction  
20 data are previously allocated to each of the base counter values, and each of the slaves transmits response data to the master based on transmission timing information which sets the base cycle counter value where a response is transmitted.